

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3-9, and 19 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 8, and 9 being independent. By this amendment, claims 1, 8, and 9 have been amended to further clarify aspects of the invention. Support for these changes can be found in the specification, as filed, at least at page 16, lines 15-21. No new matter has been added.

The Advisory Action dated May 12, 2004, confirmed the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) of claims 1, 3-9, and 19 as unpatentable over EP 0 767 445 A2 to Hidaka et al. Applicants traverse this rejection.

As now amended, independent claims 1, 8, and 9 of the present invention relate to an image processing method, an image processing apparatus, and a computer readable recording medium storing a program, respectively, all for converting data dependent on a first illuminating light into data dependent on a second illuminating light. Features of each of these claims include, a conversion condition stored for a light source having high color rendering properties and a conversion condition stored for a light source having low color rendering properties. The stored conversion conditions are obtained from a result of colorimetry for plural patches respectively performed under the light source having high color rendering properties and the light source having low color rendering properties. Moreover, a first conversion condition is generated from the stored conversion conditions, according to data indicating a proportion of synthesis, and a second conversion condition is generated based on white information of the first illuminating light and white information of the second illuminating light.

Hidaka et al. is not understood to teach or suggest many of the foregoing features of the invention.

As described at page 8, Hidaka et al. uses measured light values for ambient light (W_x , W_y , W_z , w_x , w_y) and white signal values based on a monitor profile (V_x , V_y , V_z , v_x , v_y) in a conversion process. Hidaka et al. is not understood to disclose or suggest that a conversion condition is stored for a light source having high color rendering properties and that a conversion condition is stored for a light source having low color rendering properties, wherein the conversion conditions are obtained from a result of colorimetry for plural patches respectively performed under the light source having high color rendering properties and the light source having low color rendering properties. They are also not understood to teach the generation of a first conversion condition from the stored conversion conditions according to data indicating a proportion of synthesis and the generation of a second conversion condition based on white information of the first illuminating light and white information of the second illuminating light, as set forth in independent claims 1, 8, and 9.

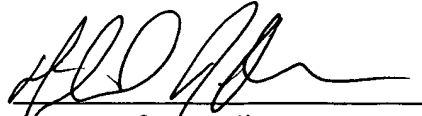
Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 8, and 9 are distinguished over Hidaka et al. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested

Claims 3-7 and 19 depend ultimately from claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for the same reason as claim 1, and for defining further patentable features of the invention. Favorable and independent consideration of the dependent claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early passage to issuance are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. Didas', is written over a horizontal line.

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